

Delgado picked to run Baker's Western Mass office

REGION — Gov. Charlie Baker recently announced that Jose Delgado will serve as director of the Governor's Western Massachusetts Office in Springfield.

The move was effective Jan. 4. Delgado is deeply involved in area communities and brings more than a decade of private and public sector experience working in Western Mass. He will be the administration's primary liaison to the region's constituents and communities, replacing outgoing Director Patrick Carnevale after his more than two years of service.

"Our Springfield office serves as a key conduit between our administration and the residents, leaders and municipalities of Western Massachusetts," Baker said.

"Jose Delgado is a highly accomplished professional who has demonstrated his commitment to public service and the communities of Western Massachusetts, and we look forward to him continuing to serve the region as a member of our team. Outgoing Director Patrick Carnevale's service to the region and to the Commonwealth has been invaluable to our Administration. We are thankful for Pat's commitment over the years and I know Jose will hit the ground running with Pat's help during this transition."

Carnevale thanked Baker for putting him in the role Delgado takes over and praised his successor.

"Serving the people of Massachusetts is an honor and I am thankful the Governor and Lieutenant Governor gave me the opportunity to give back to the community I care deeply about," Carnevale said.

"Jose is highly talented and will be an asset to the region and the Commonwealth in this role."

Delgado said he is "honored to be named the director of the Governor's Western Massachusetts office. Thank you to Governor Baker and Lt. Governor

Polito for the opportunity to serve this dynamic region and its many vibrant communities."

Delgado has served since 2017 as dDirector of Government Affairs at MGM Springfield, where he was responsible for managing the property's government relations and community engagement throughout and following the opening of the \$960 million-dollar resort that has helped transform downtown Springfield. He has also overseen communications and media relations for the property during the pandemic.

Previously, Delgado served as an aide to Springfield Mayor Domenic Sarno, where he managed constituent services throughout the city and represented the Mayor at community events, in addition to serving as Chairman of the Buy Springfield Now Program for local homeowners and prospective homebuyers. He has also worked as an advisor and recruitment coordinator for the University Without Walls Program at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

In addition to his professional work, Delgado has been a member of boards and organizations including the Massachusetts Latino Chamber of Commerce, Suit Up Springfield and the Springfield Puerto Rican Parade Committee. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees of Holyoke Community College, the Legislative Steering Committee for the Springfield Regional Chamber, Businesses Against Human Trafficking and the Hispanic American Library. In recognition of his role as a regional leader, Delgado was recognized as a member of BusinessWest's 40 Under Forty, Class of 2014. He earned his Master's of Business Administration from the Isenberg School of Management at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and earned his Bachelor's Degree from Westfield State University.



Jose Delgado

MONSON CONSERVATION ACT



Courtesy photo

Historic preservation is a priority in Monson and now the town has more than \$4 million for a variety of projects. Private property owners can apply for funding if they seek to preserve historic structures and sites.

Over \$4 million available for projects in Monson

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

MONSON — Thanks to a match from the state, Monson holds a total of \$4,331,768 for a variety of projects ranging from historic restoration to open space conservation, creation or restoration of outdoor recreation amenities, and housing for people with low to moderate incomes.

Private owners of historic property also can apply for funding for their own preservation projects.

Having the benefit of enacting the Community Preservation Act more than a decade ago, the Town of Monson gets a match from the state at a rate of 90.49%, for the money it sets aside for projects that qualify under the law.

Because of this, Monson received \$1,927,013 to add to the more than \$2.4 million earmarked for preservation projects.

Chair of the Community Preservation Committee, Leslie Duthie, said the CPA was established to help municipalities fund different programs that benefit their residents. She also said two-thirds of the town must approve the proposals.

"Since we have enacted it, we've actually done a ton of recreation," said Duthie.

"We've helped to rebuild basketball courts, tennis courts, the disk golf course at Flynt Park, supported high

school athletics, and have worked on some community housing projects."

Duthie also said Memorial Hall and Historic Society Building on Green Street, has been a big recipient of funds from the CPA.

"We've really tried to cover quite a variety of different program areas," Duthie said.

"Housing is always the most challenging, but we've actually done two housing projects in the last three or four years."

Traditionally, Duthie said, between six and 10 applications are viewed twice a year.

"Many of the community are aware of this [opportunity] and certainly this is really for community things," said Duthie.

"With the exception of the rental assistance, community buildings, community open space, community recreation and the schools have benefited from the recreation piece, but we have not done any private historic restorations. The applicant would have to make a good case, because these are town funds and we want to use them for the betterment of the community."

The deadline for submitting applications is Feb. 26 and is available at the town's website, monson-ma.gov, under Boards and Committees. Also, visit the town's Facebook page for more details.

Get a chance to win Valentine-themed prizes

MONSON — From now until early February, the Friends of the Monson Free Library will be holding a virtual Valentine raffle fundraiser.

According to Friends Vice President Gay R. Paluch, the idea for this virtual raffle came from the success of the boosters' fall raffle, which netted the not-for-profit close to \$500. Since then, while planning for this current raffle, they received several attractive prize donations. Items include:

- \$100 gift certificates to local Steaming Tender and CIMA Restaurant and Chop House.
- A handmade woolen shawl.
- \$60 gift certificate to Full Circle Skin Care and Massage Therapy in Monson.
- Two hand-beaded valentine heart necklaces and a bracelet.
- A wine and chocolate gift basket.

Tickets are \$1 each or 15 tickets for \$10 and must be purchased by Friday, Feb. 5. The drawing will be on Wednesday, Feb. 10, during the Friends' monthly Zoom meeting.

For a digital copy of the order form or to see the prizes, email friends.monsonfreelibrary@gmail.com.

Courtesy photo

Many valuable prizes were donated for the Friends of the Monson Free Library virtual raffle.

All proceeds from the raffle will help fund the library's programs and purchasing of museum passes. For more information on the Friends or to get a membership card, call Paluch at 413-893-9014.

Applications open to high school seniors and college students studying journalism

REGION — The New England Newspaper and Press Association awards up to 10 scholarships each year to aspiring journalists through the Journalism Education Foundation of New England. Applications are open through the deadline of March. The foundation strives to encourage and support young people who plan to pursue a career in the newspaper industry.

College students or high school seniors who are studying and acquiring work experience that will prepare them to work in the field of journalism are eligible to apply.

For more information contact Linda Conway at l.conway@nenpa.com.

Be a resident of New England.

Be a senior in high school planning to attend college the following year or an undergraduate college student studying journalism or a related field.

Have a GPA of 3.0 or above.

Demonstrate a serious interest in a career in journalism by sending: a cover letter, transcript, resume or biography, letter of recommendation, and a body of published work in a school news publication, general circulation newspaper, or a similar publication and/or a body of work prepared for a journalism class.

Please note: Those applying will be required to sign in to Google to upload documents.

The deadline to apply is March 12.

To qualify students must:



MURPHY

Meet Murphy, owned (as much as any cat is "owned!") by Susan Bravo of Three Rivers. Murphy is 17+ years old and loves his daily kitty treats! Each week we showcase readers' pets here and on Facebook. Is your fur friend a dog, cat, chicken, lizard, horse, bird, mouse...you get the point. Is there a pet you're fostering and trying to re-home? All pets are welcome! Email a high-resolution jpg of your pet with a little information to mharrison@turley.com.

Monson Democrats congratulate President Biden and VP Harris

MONSON — The Monson Democratic Town Committee congratulated President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. and Vice President Kamala Harris on their recent victory and inauguration, the MDTC said in a statement this week.

The MDTC is delighted to welcome a new president and Democrat-led administration, the group said in its announcement.

"Our committee is really excited and ready to support the wonderful work of the new administration," Karen Nothe-Valley, chairwoman of the MDTC, said.

"President Biden and Madam Vice President Harris are a terrific team well positioned to address the pandemic, bring Covid-19 relief to individuals and small businesses, deliver affordable healthcare for all, and make many other policy improvements for the benefit of American workers and families."

The MDTC is also looking beyond the demands of the presidential election organizing activities and will focus on community-level activities in the new year, Nothe-Valley said. For starters, Monson Democrats recently held a Covid-19 safe, contactless food drive collecting non-perishable food items for the Monson Open Pantry in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. and in connection with the Presidential Inaugural Committee Day of Service.

For more information, or to get involved with the Monson Democratic Town Committee, call Nothe-Valley at 413-846-3041 or email her at karen_monsondems@yahoo.com.

DEADLINE

The Journal Register has changed its firm deadline for public submissions to Mondays. To get your submission in for that week's edition, email Editor at mharrison@turley.com or call the office at 413-283-8393 by noon on Mondays. We appreciate the cooperation of our readers.

Tantasqua Senior High School Vocational/Technical Division

- Is now accepting applications for both in district and out of district students for the school year 2021-2022.
- Take the virtual tour of our programs in our state of the art labs (www.tantasqua.org/technical)
- View the Parent Information Video (www.tantasqua.org/technical)
- We serve students from our district; Brimfield, Brookfield, Holland, Sturbridge and Wales as well as out of district students for East Brookfield, West Brookfield and Leicester.

Deadline for filing is Wednesday, February 10, 2021

Learn about our Career Technical Programs: CAD/Mechanical Design, CAD/Architectural Design, Culinary Arts, Hotel/Restaurant Management, Carpentry, Health Careers, Business Technology, Information Technology, Advanced Manufacturing Technology.

If you have any questions please call the Technical Division at **508-347-3045 ext. 0915** or email **Mark Wood woodm@tantasqua.org**

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BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage policies, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

For more information on business coverage for The Journal Register, please email dfarmer@turley.com.

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Corrections

The Journal Register will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2 or 3. To request a correction, send information to Editor at mharrison@turley.com, or call 283-8393, extension 236. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Journal Register, Attn: Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA, 01069.

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Viewpoints

GUEST OPINION

At-risk populations need to be priority beyond vaccine

An end to the pandemic is finally in sight. Both Pfizer and Moderna reported that their vaccine candidates are 95 percent effective, and subsequently received emergency use authorization from the FDA.

Prioritizing the delivery of vaccines to people most at risk — including those with underlying illnesses and those who live in communities disproportionately impacted by the virus — is the right thing to do. Chronically ill patients are six times more likely to be hospitalized and 12 times more likely to die following infection, compared to their otherwise healthy peers. Meanwhile, hospitalization rates among African Americans and Hispanic/Latino individuals were 4.7 times the rate of caucasian individuals; and the death rate of those with intellectual disabilities is roughly twice that of the general population.

Policymakers's recognition that patients facing the most risk deserve early access to the vaccine is worth applauding. But inexplicably, an increasing number of policymakers also seem comfortable with the exact opposite approach for other critical medicines.

Among both Republicans and Democrats, there's growing interest in the use of quality-adjusted life years, or QALYs, to 'value' medicines. QALY-based value assessments are discriminatory, especially to elderly and those living with disabilities.

Here's how the QALY approach works: If a treatment provides a patient with an additional life-year of perfect health, it is awarded one QALY. If a treatment extends a patient's lifespan, but fails to return them to perfect health, it only receives a fraction of a QALY. The more QALYs a drug provides, the more 'valuable' it is.

The Institute for Clinical and Economic Review, or ICER, has long urged policymakers and insurers to rely on QALY analyses when deciding how much to pay for new drugs.

The result is as heartless as one might expect.

Suppose a patient suffers from a neurological disorder that produces a range of symptoms from blindness to partial paralysis. Now, let's suppose the FDA approves a new treatment that restores the patient's vision, but does little to address their mobility issues.

For ICER, this hypothetical breakthrough drug would never yield a 'full' QALY, as it wouldn't restore the patient to 'perfect health.' Despite greatly improving the patient's condition, the drug may only be deemed worthy of half a QALY, thus insurers would be urged not to cover it because it's not considered cost-effective by ICER's standards.

Cost effectiveness evaluations inevitably and systematically discriminate against those living with chronic illnesses, disabilities, and mental illness — those Americans for whom a return to 'perfect' health is impossible.

If ICER's valuation methods continue to gain clout, vulnerable groups may find that the medication upon which they once relied is no longer covered by insurance. Meanwhile, the prospect of advancing innovative new treatments that benefit Americans with chronic illnesses, disabilities, and mental illness will become bleaker.

Three decades ago, Oregon tried to employ such discriminatory metrics in a public insurance program, but a legal challenge ultimately found them in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Unfortunately, QALYs are once again being considered by insurers, state-run Medicaid programs, and policymakers with the aim of reducing healthcare spending.

While this goal is understandable, the target is off-base.

The incoming administration has a chance to put an end to QALYs. Vulnerable Americans desperately need our help. We cannot let them down.

Patrick J. Kennedy, a former Democratic U.S. representative, was lead author of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act. He served on the President's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis.

This piece originally ran in the Boston Herald.

GUEST COLUMNIST



PATRICK KENNEDY



Midwinter garden musings

It was a lot of fun to get back in the groove garden-wise this week. No, my hands weren't in the dirt, but I was definitely dreaming and scheming about the upcoming season, and reflecting on gardens past. Here are some musings that might be of interest to you.

One can presume that the resurgence in gardening we experienced last spring has continued into the new year. Because of unprecedented increases in ordering, two of my favorite mail order seed companies have limited days that you can place online orders and are stating that it will take anywhere from 10 days to six weeks for shipment. So I guess I would advise that if you haven't placed your orders yet, it might be a good idea to do so.

On a sad note, I discovered that one of my favorite companies for flower seed, Stokes Seed, has discontinued flower seed altogether and is catering to commercial growers for its vegetable seed. Good thing I saved an outdated catalog for all of its valuable cultural information. It was here that I learned that cleome seeds like alternating temperatures to germinate well, to the tune of 85 degrees by day and 65 degrees by night! Or that salvia seed needs light to germinate; don't cover these seeds, just push them into the soil surface.

One thing that always appealed to me about this company was the number of varieties that it offered for each flower type. In my old catalog, I counted no less than 22 kinds of petunias in dozens of colors choices. It will take a bit of research to find a replacement for this company but I am guessing there is one or more out there.

The hyacinth bulbs that sat in my 50-degree mudroom since October sometime were put in forcing glasses a little over a week ago, and already have roots that stretch inches into the water. It has been an ongoing joke in my house that if you stood there long enough you could watch them grow. Top growth has started, ever so slightly. I cannot wait for the blooms to perfume my house! Did you

ever get "itchy" after handling hyacinth bulbs? I do, and it is a common reaction for many people. The weird thing is, my hands rarely itch, but it I happen to touch my face or my neck with a hand that touched a hyacinth bulb I had better wash up and quickly!

The rosemary plant that I potted up before the first hard frost is doing great. It gets late morning sun and sits in a comfortable 50-degree location indoors. Old houses are great in that respect; they offer lots of little microclimates for our gardening pass-time. I water it as needed, typically every five days or so. It hasn't flowered, but should soon. Long nights initiate the flowering response. This year it grew so big that I could barely lift it on my own. It may be a good idea to think about taking some cuttings this spring and retiring the old girl. We'll see.

The best cuttings are those taken with a little new growth. Find where the tip of the stem bends on its own and that is where you should take your cutting. Keeping a large rosemary on board is reminiscent of my teenage years when my parents would cover and uncover the two large specimens we'd overwinter on our unheated porch. We were successful at it for many years in a row.

As I look back I think it is pretty neat that my parents cared enough about my blossoming career to go through the hassle of putting blankets on rosemary plants every night!

On that note, I hope that you too are able to find your groove this week, gardening or elsewhere.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

IN THE GARDEN



Roberta McQuaid
Columnist

SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

Do COVID-19 bonuses as income?

By Russell Gloor
Guest columnist

Dear Rusty: I'm 63 and still working, and I receive Social Security benefits. Because of COVID-19 my employer has been giving us a \$300 bonus, every three months. This will be \$1,200 for the year and it will put me over the \$18,240 earnings limit for this year. My question is, since these bonuses are COVID-19 related are they still considered earned income? My second question is, if I go over the limit does Social Security stop my check, even if it might be a portion of the check? Signed: Working During COVID-19

Dear Working: Whether your 2020 earnings (and those bonuses) put you over the annual earnings limit will depend upon how the bonuses are reported on your federal income tax return (or your W-2 if you aren't required to file). Your employer will send your W-2 earnings to the IRS which will, in turn, inform Social Security of your earnings. Social Security compares your 2020 W-2 earnings to the earnings limit to see if you exceeded the allowable limit. In other words, how your employer defines those COVID-19 bonuses and reports it to the IRS determines whether Social Security will count them toward the earnings limit. You should check with your employer's human resources department to see if your COVID-19 bonuses will be considered as taxable earnings reportable on your W-2.

If you exceed the limit, and you don't inform Social Security in advance that you did, they won't know about it until they receive your W-2 information from the IRS (sometime next year, after you file your income taxes). They will then send you a notification that you exceeded the limit and tell you how much you owe them, and they will want to recover \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit (half

of what you exceed the limit by). They'll give you the option to repay what they consider to be an overpayment in one lump sum, request a repayment plan or to have your Social Security benefits withheld for as many months as it takes for them to recover what you owe. Note they only withhold full months of benefits, not partial, so you could go several months without collecting any Social Security benefits until they recover what is owed. The money they withhold because you exceeded the limit is not lost forever, because when you reach your full retirement age (66 ½ if you turned 63 in 2020) they will give you time credit for any months they withheld benefits. That means they will move your effective claim date forward by the number of months benefits were withheld, which will result in a small increase in your benefit amount. But you'll get that higher benefit for the rest of your life, enabling you to eventually recover the money they withheld because you exceeded the limit. And for your information, during the year you reach your full retirement age (FRA) the limit goes up and the penalty is less, and once you reach your FRA there is no longer a limit to how much you can earn while collecting benefits.

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Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

Letters to the Editor

White supremacists a threat

Getting rid of Trump will not solve our problems of division.

The white supremacists/neoNazis/racists will still be with us. These are people that genuinely believe that whites are better, smarter, prettier, healthier, stronger and more deserving than black or brown people. This of course is totally untrue but they believe it. For years they were under wraps until Trump came along. As their champion he gave them validity and permission to show their true selves.

They felt legitimized and protected by him.

Germany went through this same horror in the early 1930s when the democratically-elected Hitler aroused the white supremacist feelings among Germans. Hitler used a lot of religion to win over the populace as in "We are ridding ourselves of the Jews for the Lord" and quoting the Bible. Hitler was beside himself when Jesse Owens won four gold medals in the 1936 Olympics because he was black. Trump doesn't know the Bible, but he has used the pro-life position to dupe "evangelicals."

We hope that when Trump is out of the picture his white supremacist followers will go back into hiding and not raise their kids to be racist. We can do something about the members of congress like Cruz and Hawley, who abetted the white supremacists by backing up Trump lies. The problem with social media and conspiracy theories will continue. From Hillary Clinton's pedophilia ring in the pizza parlor to the QAnon conspiracy theory, gullible people see the lies and not the truth.

They tend to believe Trump's lies because he repeats them continuously.

Believing false theories can result in real tragedies. From the attempt to kidnap the governor of Michigan to the bombing in Nashville, Tenn., to the storming of the capitol in D.C on Jan. 6. That last tragedy was due to people believing Trump's lie about winning the election.

Trump is off social media, but conspiracy theories are still on. We must find a way to identify circulating lies. They must be called out immediately. That's what real patriots would do.

Malita Brown
Wilbraham

EDITOR'S NOTE: This column is a biweekly feature courtesy of The Grateful American Book Prize and was created to highlight books that show children that their past is prelude to their future.

HISTORY MATTERS

Historic events from Jan. 16 to Jan. 31

By John Grimaldi and David Bruce Smith
Guest columnist

Benjamin Franklin, the paternal polymath of Revolutionary America, was born Jan. 17, 1706, and died 84 years later. His formal education ended at 10, but Franklin taught himself to read and write; subsequently, he matured into an expert, adolescent essayist, producing pieces, pseudonymously, as "Silence Dogood."

Eventually, he authored the bestselling Poor Richard's Almanack—a compendium of poems, calendar, and recipes; trivia, humor, practical advice; weather predictions, astrological information and pithy proverbs.

And his later achievements as a printer, publisher, author, inventor, scientist, and diplomat, mutated the world.

Franklin's triumphs were variegated, and the scope of his nimble masterminding of the Franklin Stove, bifocals, electricity and swim fins was unprecedented. He was also America's first Postmaster General, and founder of the University of Pennsylvania.

Most important: Franklin was a Founding Father. According to History.com, he was the only Founding Father "to have signed all four of the key documents establishing the U.S.: The Declaration of Independence (1776), the Treaty of Alliance with France (1778), the Treaty of Paris establishing peace with Great Britain (1783) and the U.S. Constitution (1787)."

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends "The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin."

Elizabeth Blackwell

Apparently, it was a "practical joke" when the all-male student body at Geneva Medical College, now State University of New York, voted to accept Elizabeth Blackwell as a student in 1847. Two years later, on Jan. 23, 1849, she graduated at the top of her class; at commencement, the school's dean acknowledged her achievement in a rather cynical manner and concluded his remarks by declaring his hope that Dr. Blackwell would be the last woman to be admitted to the college.

The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, now The New England Journal of Medicine, called her achievement "a farce."

Blackwell completed her graduate studies in London; in 1851, she returned to the U.S., but she was shunned, and barred, from practicing in hospitals. Undaunted, she opened an office in New York City's tenement district; six years later, she set up The New York Infirmary for Women and Children, with her sister Emily, also a doctor, and a third female physician.

For more information, the Grateful American Book Prize recommends "Elizabeth Blackwell: First Woman M.D." by Nancy Kline.

Nellie Bly

Jules Verne's "Around the World in Eighty Days," was published in 1872, but it is still popular. His hero, Phileas T. Fogg, managed to accomplish the feat.

Because the book was a best seller in America and abroad, the editors of the New York World decided to challenge their paper's star reporter, Nellie Bly, to circumnavigate the globe in under 80 days. The intrepid newspaperwoman did not hesitate. She departed New York City, heading east, and returned 72 days, six hours, 11 minutes, and 14 seconds later, on Jan. 25, 1890.

Election letters to the editor welcome

The *Journal Register* welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Journal Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to mharrison@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call editor Michael Harrison at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in The Journal Register.

Letters to the editor policy

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and guest columns between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must confirm authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

Please send opinions to:
**The Journal Register
Letter to the Editor
24 Water St.,
Palmer MA 01069,
or by e-mail to:
mharrison@turley.com**

The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

The Journal Register

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COVID | from page 1

close to \$195 million in direct financial support to 4,119 small businesses out of a \$668 million fund set up to support small businesses across the Commonwealth.

One of the awards went to Donna Cianciola, owner of Fancy Feet Plus in Ludlow, which sells dance apparel and shoes. The pandemic forced many dance studios to close and limited recitals and other performances, which currently can only be held virtually. The ripple effect meant fewer customers for shops like Fancy Feet, which was forced to close from March 17 last year through most of June.

"We attempted to do curbside pickup, but that just didn't go well for us because all the dance studios were closed," Cianciola said.

She's been able to keep one of two employees on the shop's payroll and now hopes the grant and steadier sales will allow her to bring back the other before too long.

"Hopefully," she said.

Cianciola said she applied for aid in the first round of applications but didn't receive it.

Getting a grant in the second round was a pleasant surprise.

"I was elated!" she said.

Iron Duke Brewing and at least 10 other businesses in Ludlow and nearby communities were named by the program as grant recipients.

Additional grants will be announced in the coming weeks for thousands of additional businesses. The deadline to apply for the next round was Jan. 15.

"Our administration set up a \$668 million grant program to support small businesses state-



Courtesy photo

Fancy Feet Plus in Ludlow, which sells dance apparel and shoes, was one of more than a dozen local recipients of financial aid from the COVID-19 Small Business Grant Program.

wide that are struggling from COVID-19 impacts," Gov. Baker said last week.

"Today, we are awarding our third round of grants, for a total of \$195 million in direct financial support for over 4,000 small businesses, with more yet to come. Supporting small businesses is vital to our economic recovery, and we'll continue to expedite this grant process to send out funds to provide some much needed financial relief."

Lt. Governor Karyn Polito said that "we've taken important steps to ensure these resources are directed toward the businesses that have historically been at a disadvantage even before the pandemic, or are located in communities, especially 'gateway cities,' that have suffered disproportionately because of this virus."

Mass. Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy said helping businesses survive is as important as fighting the coronavirus that causes covid-19.

"Through each of the three grant rounds, small businesses are receiving essential support at a critical time in our fight against COVID-19 Kennealy said.

"I want to acknowledge the team at Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation for their efforts to stand up this impactful program. It is important that we as a Commonwealth continue our dual paths of combating the virus and supporting economic recovery."

MGCC President and CEO Larry Andrews said, "At our core, MGCC has the responsibility to create economic opportunities and provide support for small businesses, and the pandemic has given our mission an enhanced importance."

"As we transition from targeting small businesses to specific economic sectors affected by COVID-19, I want to express my gratitude to all of the partner organizations who helped raise awareness among the businesses with the greatest need and those serving

communities that have traditionally been at a disadvantage."

Representing key industries that have been especially impacted during the pandemic, restaurants and bars, personal care, retail, and health care businesses received the highest number of individual grants this round. These industries have been particularly hard hit during the pandemic. Other grant recipients include women owned businesses, businesses in gateway cities, businesses in underserved markets and businesses that have previously received no other forms of financial assistance.

In addition to administering the small business grant program, MGCC also oversees the Sector-Specific Small Business Relief Grant Program, which was launched as a component of the \$668 million relief package announced in late-December 2020.

For more information about the program, go to empowering-smallbusiness.org.

MONSON | from page 1

of cases reported by the state is 43 or lower. Three consecutive weeks in which there are 43 or more total cases in town will trigger a return to full remote learning.

The compromise was approved after a second consecutive committee discussion that exceeded two hours, including comments from members of the public. Clarke repeated what she said at the previous meeting, that — like many of her pupils, their parents and teachers — she desperately wants to allow students back in school as long as she's confident that health and safety

felt uneasy about moving ahead with no metrics at all.

"With nothing to guide the transition, many in the school community said it would make them feel better about returning if we could have some type of metrics rather than it just be open," she said prior to last week's vote.

"For those reasons I ask that [the committee] rework what that vote was and refine what we do to bring students back to in-person learning. So that's the challenge."

Emphasizing that "a lot of planning is needed," including hiring more teachers for in-school classes, Clarke said whatever the committee decides to do, she needs a firm commitment

While praising teachers for their commitment and flexibility, Clarke also took several opportunities to stress her support for going back to in-person classes once the wave of new covid cases subsides.

Covid-19 is the disease that is caused by coronavirus. Not everyone infected shows symptoms and it is generally accepted that transmissions occur through close contact or when airborne droplets are spread by infected people when they cough or sneeze while not wearing a mask or not wearing one properly.

Though vaccines have been developed and approved, they are not yet widely available. Hope said it's her understanding that teachers will be among the priority group offered the two-dose shots in March or April when the next phase of vaccinations rolls out.

Lord also praised Hope and Monson's teachers in general.

"You're making remote learning work as best as you can," he said.

An 'Ardous Task'

Lead Nurse Karen Fedora talked about the difficulty in trying to balance the needs of the school community while always wanting to err on the side of safety.

"It's an arduous task on what to say and how to say it," she said.

"I'm not here to support a point of view or a group and I have no desire to get caught up in the politics," Fedora said.

She said her goal is helping with "a safe, healthy return to school as soon as possible and 'safe' is the key word. That means different things to different people. We have to take into account a lot of variables. What's right for one person may not be right for the next. For many people these are potentially life or death decisions."

Fedora did have a pointed message about misinformation.

"I know this is fraught with tension and disagreement, but if someone in your life is telling you that your kids are never going back to school, that is not true," she said.

"Recognize this for the manipulation that this is."

Like others, she made a reference to "covid fatigue" and acknowledged that most people have encountered some form of it after nearly a year of living through a global pandemic. Hope, who will be conferring with Clarke at least once a week while they and others monitor statistics and other factors, is optimistic that a comprehensive vaccination program will hasten the end of the pandemic. Until then, however, she urges vigilance and strict adherence to protocols, including prolonged hand washing, social

distancing and wearing a protective mask in public.

"Now is not the time to let your guard down," she said.

'It's Just Time'

Students who spoke during the Jan. 13 meeting made their case for resuming in-person classes regardless of metrics.

"I feel safe going back and I know so many kids who are so ready to go back to school," high school senior Sydnie DeVries said.

"Staying home has affected so many of my peers' mental health. Kids are laying in their bed because it's so hard waking up and knowing you'll be staring at a computer screen for hours at end. It's just time to go back. [Others can] stay home and that's perfectly fine, but I'm frustrated and tired of letting others decide. I want to be able to see my friends and have the motivation to be successful again."

Junior Reese Hoden expressed empathy for the decision makers, but also believes it should come down to choices by individuals.

"There are a lot of factors that have to be accounted for before deciding but one of the main issues is the mental health [issues] of kids and young adults is skyrocketing," said.

"Suicides (nationally) have gone up exponentially. There are a lot of risks with staying fully remote and one of the best solutions is to let people make the choice of whether to not to go back."

Noting that another long break from school is coming up on Feb. 15, Clarke, again citing logistics and the need for time to plan, said that date could possibly represent an inflection point depending on the metrics.

"This is our last best try to get the kids back," she said.

"We're fluid, but fluid to a point. It's tough to live week to week. It's wearing on everyone. It's nobody's fault. It's a global pandemic."

Sports Delayed

Monson sports were initially going to resume this week for a truncated season, but Director of Athletics Leah Zippin said on Tuesday that now the plan is to start practices for the winter sports — basketball, unified basketball and cheerleading March 1 with competition beginning March 11. Swimming and diving might be included, but that's still tentative.

"We decided with the metrics, it would be really difficult to play games now and have them be competitive," Zippin said.

"The best opportunity for them to be competitive [is in March]," she said.



As part of the Massachusetts COVID-19 vaccination program, all congregate care settings, shelters and prisons will have a chance to receive the vaccine.



As of Jan. 15, 150 staff members of the Hampden County Sheriff's Department have received the COVID-19 vaccine.

SHERIFF | from page 1

"So far we have folks that want it and do not want it," said Rizzuto.

"It's been mixed for sure, but what we've seen is as time has passed and the weeks have gone on, more people have said they actually want to get it. What we're hearing is that the ones that are skeptical right now, they have indicated that they'll be more inclined if they a staff member get it too, which we'll be happy to get at the same time."

The sheriff's department's medical team of nurses and doctors oversee distributing the vaccine and wearing personal protective equipment. Rizzuto also said people will go into the site one by one and will be monitored for about 15 minutes after they have received the vaccine to make sure there are no side effects.

As of Jan. 15, 150 vaccinations have been distributed to staff members and close to 500 staff members are signed up to get the vaccine, according to Rizzuto. Also, close to 200 inmates have signed up to receive the vaccine, which Rizzuto said is a number that is expected to grow as time passes.

Because the risk of spread is very high due to the inmates living in very close quarters, Rizzuto said on behalf of the sheriff's department, they are happy to have received the vaccine early on.

"We're definitely appreciative that the state made the decision to put us in phase one," said Rizzuto. "We are hoping that this will be a true turning point in the pandemic."

For more information on the COVID-19 vaccination program and its timeline, visit mass.gov.

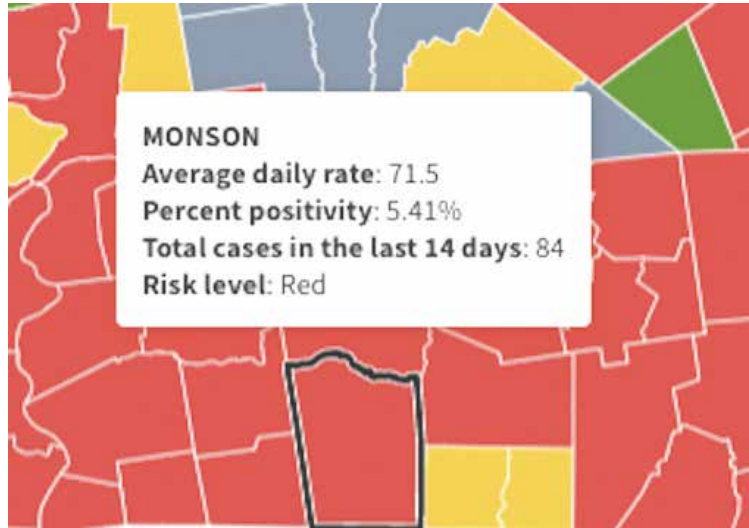
HISTORY | from page 4

Nellie Bly was not her real name; she was born Elizabeth Cochrane, but in those days, it was considered improper for a woman to write under her own moniker. She changed it to "Nellie Bly" when she became a journalist.

According to the Library of Congress, "No stranger to fame, the daring Miss Bly had already made a name for herself by exposing the deplorable

conditions of an insane asylum on New York's Blackwell's Island. Bly researched the story by feigning insanity and having herself committed for 10 days. Her exposé on the asylum and later reports on slum life brought about needed reforms and helped pave the way for women in journalism."

For more information, The Grateful American Book Prize recommends Bly's memoir: "Undercover: Reporting for The New York World 1887 – 1894."



Graphic courtesy of WBUR

According to numbers released last week, Monson had over 80 covid-19 cases, about .5% of the town's population, compared to 55 the week before.

are not compromised.

Some stakeholders who spoke at last week's meeting, including some school committee members, echoed that sentiment. Others seemed upset that the Jan. 25 return date agreed to at the Jan. 6 meeting was pushed back by Clarke prior to last week after she learned about covid cases connected to the schools.

The day after last week's meeting, the state reported that Monson had 84 total cases — up from 55 the week before. That's why this week's total is pivotal.

"When the motion was approved to get us back in on Jan. 25, I was surprised," Clarke said during the Jan. 13 meeting.

"I think a lot of people were surprised and I would describe at least one as giddy. I was happy to think we can get kids back and we know we can do it safely. We've spent over \$1 million on health and safety protocols. Once we digested what the committee voted on, the next day we found a couple of things: I was made aware of several of cases that had a connection to the school community. The second one was, we had done a survey of Granite Valley and high school parents and we felt like we didn't have a handle on what parents wanted. Clarke said she and others

sooner than later so she could be ahead of the logistics.

A Chance to be Heard

Committee Chair Jeffrey Lord made it clear that the input of staff and the public is encouraged and valued.

"I ask our partners in this endeavor, since we're doing this cooperatively," to speak up, he said. "We want you to feel we hear you and we're all in this together."

There was no shortage of participants raising a hand to be heard in the virtual meeting held on Zoom and streamed live.

Teachers Association President Lynn Hope said "I'd like to think Dr. Clarke for always considering the union and our opinion in making her decisions. She's tenacious in trying to make things work." The Jan. 6 decision came as a surprise, she said.

The plan to open without using metrics "kind of threw us for a loop," Hope said.

"We surveyed our union members and asked, 'do you support a plan with no metrics in place?' And 92% voted no. We were very nervous about that. We like metrics. We like a security blanket and we are comfortable with certain metrics in place."

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POSTPONEMENT:

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College notes

Goodwin University's President's List for the Summer 2020 Session includes three local students, all of whom scored a perfect 4.0 GPA. They are: **Brittany Klotz** of Holland, **Christine Kandrotas** of Monson, and **Julija Neufeld** of Monson. The three all also made the Dean's List for that session, requiring a minimum 3.5 GPA, the equivalent of an A- average, during a given academic session.

Goodwin University in East Hartford, Conn., is an innovative learning community that empowers hard-working students to become sought-after employees. Classes are conveniently offered year-round –days, evenings, weekends, and online. Degrees may be flexibly layered across certificate, associate, bachelor's, and master's programs in a variety of in-demand fields. For more information, visit goodwin.edu.

The State University of New York at Potsdam recently named **Emily Huff** of Monson to the Dean's List. Huff, whose major is Community Health, was among 245 students who were honored for academic excellence in the Fall 2020 semester. To achieve the honor of being on the Dean's List, each student must have satisfactorily completed 12 numerically-graded semester hours, with a grade-point average of between 3.25 and 3.49 in the given semester.

Jessica Stolecki of Brimfield was recently named to the President's List at SUNY Potsdam. Stolecki, whose major is Music Education, was among 1,046 SUNY Potsdam students who were honored for academic excellence in the Fall 2020 semester. College President Dr. Kristin G. Esterberg recognized the students for earning top marks. To achieve the honor of being on the President's List, each student must have satisfactorily completed 12 numerically-graded semester hours, with a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher.

Founded in 1816, The State University of New York at Potsdam is one of America's first 50 colleges – and the oldest institution within SUNY. Now in its third century, SUNY Potsdam is distinguished by a legacy of pioneering programs and educational excellence. The College currently enrolls approximately 3,600 undergraduate and graduate students. Home to the world-renowned Crane School of Music, SUNY Potsdam is known for its challenging liberal arts and sciences core, distinction in teacher training and culture of creativity. To learn more, visit potsdam.edu.

Curry College is proud to announce that **min Penny** of Palmer has been named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester. Penny majoring in Nursing, is among the roughly 1,000 students that have received the distinc-

tion, a marker of academic excellence and high achievement. To earn a place on the list, full-time undergraduate students – those who carry 12 or more graded credits per semester – must earn a 3.3 GPA or higher.

Founded in 1879, **Curry College** is a private, four-year, liberal arts-based institution located on 131 acres in Milton. Curry extends its educational programs to a continuing education branch campus in Plymouth and offers 28 undergraduate majors, as well as graduate degrees in business, accounting, education, criminal justice, and nursing, with a combined enrollment of over 3,700 students. The largest majors are business management, communication, nursing, criminal justice, and education, and the college is also internationally known for its Program for the Advancement of Learning. For more information, go to curry.edu.

Many hard-working students at **Nichols College** in Dudley have achieved Dean's List or President's List honors during the fall 2020 semester. Among them are **Amanda Costa** of Palmer and **Shane Raney** of Brimfield, both of who achieved Dean's List honors. The Dean's List and President's List give recognition to those students who achieve high grades during a single semester. In order to be included on the Dean's List, a student must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 for at least 12 undergraduate credit-hours and must have received no grades below B- during the semester.

Nichols College is a college of choice for business and leadership education as a result of its distinctive career-focused and leadership-based approaches to learning, both in and out of the classroom, and through impactful research and professional education. Students thrive in a learning and living environment that is supported by an experiential business curriculum and a strong liberal arts foundation aimed at transforming them into tomorrow's leaders. Nichols also offers master's degrees in business, leadership, accounting, and counterterrorism, as well as a range of certificate programs, to promote career advancement for today's professionals.

Congratulations to **Leia Resnick** of Monson for being named to the Muhlenberg College Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester. Muhlenberg College students and Muhlenberg College School of Continuing Studies students with a term GPA of 3.50 or higher were recognized for this academic achievement.

Founded in 1848, Muhlenberg is a highly selective, private, four-year residential, liberal arts college located in Allentown, Pa., approximately 90 miles



Courtesy photo

The campus of Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa., where Leia Resnick of Monson made the Dean's List.

west of New York City. With an undergraduate enrollment of approximately 2,200 students, Muhlenberg College is dedicated to shaping creative, compassionate, collaborative leaders through rigorous academic programs in the arts, humanities, natural sciences and social sciences as well as selected pre-professional programs, including accounting, business, education and public health. The College is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. A member of the Centennial Conference, Muhlenberg competes in 22 varsity sports.

Assumption University has announced those students named to the University's Dean's List for the fall 2020 semester. They include

Christina Kuss of Monson (Class of 2021) and **Jillian Johnson** of Holland (Class of 2024). Students must achieve a GPA of 3.5 for a five-class, 15-credit semester to be included on the prestigious list, which is announced at the completion of the fall and spring semesters. Due to the pandemic, this fall semester was divided into two accelerated seven-week terms.

"This semester, our students faced unprecedented challenges due to the global pandemic," said Francesco C. Cesareo, Ph.D., president of Assumption College.

"Following a rapid transition to remote learning, students adapted to the new form of education delivery amid difficult circumstances. The Assumption community is proud of these students who, despite the distractions of the COVID-19 situation, were able to remain focused and maintain a commitment to their academic programs."

An Assumption education prepares students to succeed in a continuously changing world and for jobs that do not yet exist. Steeped in the liberal arts tradition, students studying at Assump-

tion are exposed to a broad range of disciplines in the humanities, sciences, and social sciences as they explore fundamental questions characteristic of the liberal arts, while also learning best-practices and developing valuable communication and critical-thinking skills, traits sought after by employers in nearly every industry. A combination of classroom theory and hands-on learning through internships, participation in community service, or one of the more than 60 on-campus clubs and organizations help students develop into leaders who will make a difference in the communities in which they live and work.

For more information, visit assumption.edu.

It is with great pleasure that **Southern New Hampshire University** congratulates the following students on being named to the fall 2020 Dean's List: Alex Lord and Raymond Morehouse, both of Holland.

Eligibility for the Dean's List requires that a student accumulate a GPA of 3.5-3.699 and earn 12 credits for the semester.

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit institution with an 88-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 170,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, N.H. Recognized as the "Most Innovative" regional university by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at snhu.edu.

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The upcoming dates: 6-7 p.m. Feb. 2 and 10-11 a.m. Feb. 3.

If you are interested in attending, call contact Maureen at 413-209-7677 or Janet at 508-713-3895. They will send you the zoom link needed to join.



Courtesy photo

Some of the cannabidiol products in the foreground were used to make cookies during a cannabis culinary assistant training course early last spring at the HCC-MGM Culinary Arts Institute.

HCC adds cannabis job training program to spring schedule

HOLYOKE – The Cannabis Education Center at Holyoke Community College has added a second cannabis core training program to its spring calendar of workforce training programs.

The CEC will offer another round of its intensive, two-day Cannabis Core Training program on Sat., March 20, and Sunday, March 21.

Slots also remain open for Cannabis Core Training the weekend of Sat., Jan. 23, and Sunday, Jan. 24.

Each day will be broken down into two sessions, 9 a.m. to noon, and 1 to 4 p.m. Each session will include presentations from cannabis industry experts followed by a question and answer period.

Students who complete the core training are then eligible to register for spring 2021 classes in one of four cannabis industry career tracks: Cultivation Assistant (Feb. 6 – Feb. 21); Extraction Technician (Feb. 27-March 14); Culinary Assistant (April 3 – April 18); and Patient Services Associate (Jan. 30 – Feb. 14; and May 1-May 16).

Cultivation assistants provide the daily care of the crops from seed to harvest and may be involved in cracking seeds, soil mixing, potting, defoliation, watering, pest control and trimming.

Extraction technicians work in labs assisting production managers in all aspects of extraction, purging, oil manipulation, winterization, distillation, solvent recovery and quality control.

Patient service associates work behind the counters at cannabis dispensaries, interacting with the public, answering technical questions, and providing information to registered cannabis patients, caregivers and recreational customers making purchases.

Culinary assistants are responsible for preparing cannabis or cannabidiol-infused products using a variety of cooking, baking and infusion techniques.

To register for the January or March Cannabis Core Training class, please go to hcc.edu/cec-core. The cost of the two-day core training session is \$595. Each career track program is \$799.

The Cannabis Education Center is a partnership between HCC and Elevate Northeast and based out of HCC's Kittredge Center for Business and Workforce Development.

Elevate Northeast is a Massachusetts-based, women-founded 501(c)(3) nonprofit, created to support the Northeast U.S.'s growing cannabis industry through workforce training, education and advocacy.

More information on these and other upcoming classes and programs can be found on the Cannabis Education Center's website –cannabiseducationcenter.org or by calling 413-552-2320.###

Holyoke Community College is the Commonwealth's oldest community college, serving more than 9,500 students annually in credit and noncredit programs and courses. The college holds transfer agreements with more than two dozen colleges and universities. Recognized for its Honors Program, online learning curriculum, learning communities and service to students, HCC also offers business development opportunities through the Kittredge Center for Business and Workforce Development. For more information about the college or courses go to www.hcc.edu.

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WINTER SPORTS

Live-streaming could be available for high school games

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – Basketball and hockey may be starting up in the next week or two depending on what school you are playing for, but your ability to catch a game is about as limited as your ability to go to the TD Garden or Fenway Park.

But your favorite high school action may be coming, and for free, to a handheld or other computer device near you.

Many schools, beginning this week with Quabbin Regional's regular season basketball games, will be made available to its faithful utilizing a couple of platforms.

Quabbin's games will be seen on its YouTube channel.

Several schools have YouTube channels, where it now video tapes or streams various events live for people to see. The trend became popular last year in June when many schools lost out on their traditional graduation ceremonies.

It is unclear if those types of ceremonies will be able to return this year, making the ability to stream so people who cannot be there in person can watch, even more important.

There are more ways various schools in the region will stream games for fans. Among them, Agawam and several other schools will utilize Facebook, while others may use the National Federation of High Schools website to do games.

Hockey games at Olympia Ice Center in West Springfield will utilize a website called Livebarn. There will be no fans allowed

STREAMING | page 8



Social media sites like Facebook or YouTube channels could be used by area high schools to livestream winter sporting events.

GIRLS BASKETBALL



File photos

Pathfinder basketball is set to begin next week.

Pioneers, Panthers set to open season; Monson, Palmer remain on sidelines

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

PALMER – The Palmer and Pathfinder Regional High School boys and girls basketball teams are getting ready to head to the court next week as game action is finally set to begin in Western Massachusetts.

But unfortunately, Monson will not be joining the Pioneers, at least on the court. While swimming will be in action as well as Palmer's members of the Am-

herst hockey team, Monson's COVID-19 situation is preventing the basketball teams from hitting the court, and at least one school is looking at the "Fall 2" season to start playing.

Monson Athletic Director Leah Zippin said her school is discussing the possibility of a short season with a number of other schools that are currently unable to play at this time due to the heavy spikes in new cases of coronavirus.

BASKETBALL | page 8

AUTO RACING

Tri track modified series confirms six 2021 dates



Submitted photo

The Tri Track Open Modified Series will have six dates in 2021 for its competition.

SEEKONK – The Tri Track Open Modified Series officials confirmed on Tuesday six dates for the 2021 season. The series will compete at three different tracks in two different New England states, headlined by multiple staple events and the anticipated return to Massachusetts.

Fans can expect a return to Monadnock Speedway (twice), two stops at Star Speedway, including the 10th annual SBM, and two stops at Seekonk Speedway -- including the prestigious \$10,000 to win Open Wheel Wednesday and the fan-favorite Haunted Hundred.

The season begins back on the high-banks of Monadnock, in Winchester, New Hampshire, with a 100-lap feature on Saturday, May 1. The date will be part of Monadnock's opening Spring Dash

weekend, which will also include their NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Racing Series divisions and the Granite State Pro Stock Series. Tri Track will visit Monadnock for a second time on Saturday, August 14, joined again by Monadnock's weekly divisions. The track has been a regular circuit on the Tri Track schedule -- one that places series regulars against the weekly competitors, which often come close to Victory Lane. Craig Lutz and Sam Rameau won events at Monadnock in a COVID-19 shortened 2020 season.

On May 22, Tri Track will return to Star Speedway in Epping, New Hampshire, for the first of two dates on the 2021 calendar. Star has also been well-known for the annual SBM event, which returns for

RACING | page 8

BASKETBALL



File photos

The spring baseball tournament is still in question as conditions in six months are hard to predict right now.

Tournaments for baseball in question

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – As time continues to run short on the various 2020-2021 seasons, the opportunity for area fans to see their favorite sports' sectional tournaments is running out.

When the majority of the member schools in Massachusetts voted for the change to a statewide tournament and eliminate the sectional tournaments sponsored by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association, many Western Mass. schools voted against the idea.

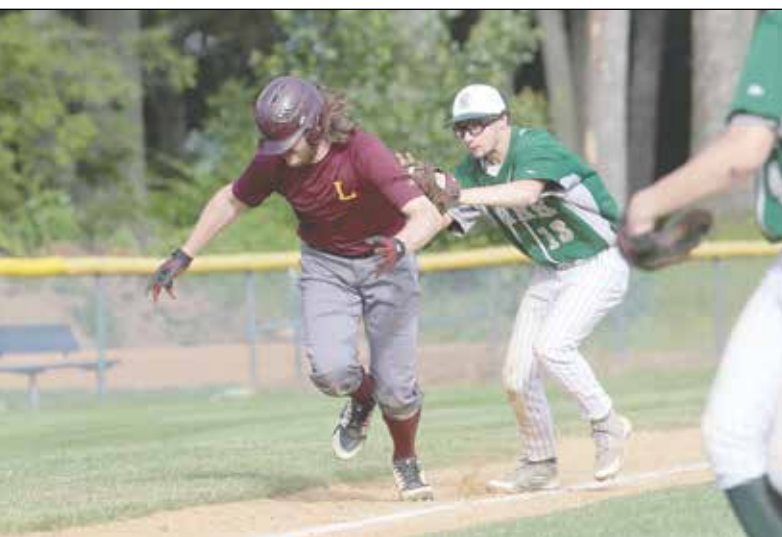
The Western Mass. tournament, especially in certain sports like soccer and basketball, has been

an important event to the region between the ability to obtain bragging rights for an area of the state often segregated from the rest.

The 2020-2021 school year was set to be the final year with a sectional tournament, a sobering fact for fans of soccer and basketball who were used to the spectacle of seeing the best teams compete for the soccer title at big venues like Westfield State University, and Curry Hicks Cage in the case of basketball.

In the spring, UMass is also a very popular site, often hosting the semifinals and finals of the Western Mass. softball and baseball tournaments. The sites also host state semifinal games on a rotating basis.

Recently, the baseball committee under the MIAA was discuss-



UMass has been a popular site for the Western Mass. baseball tournament.

ing the possibilities of whether or not there will be a tournament this spring. The fall and winter tournaments were already cancelled, denying fans their opportunity to have a final sectional under the MIAA banner.

At their Jan. 6 meeting, the committee established a sub-committee to begin studying potential rule changes to the game along with an end-of-season tournament proposal.

The baseball season is currently scheduled to begin in late April, falling the "bubble" or Fall 2 season. Any tournament may be held at the end of June and there is more of a chance for a tournament versus other seasons because the vaccination effort for COVID-19 could be

in more advance stages leading to a relaxing of social distancing and large gathering guidelines.

Schedules and tournaments have been largely influenced by an interest in keeping interactions limited. Tournaments that draw lots of fans and matchups between random schools paired together in brackets were eliminated in favor of playing in small geographic bubbles and keeping most schools playing just a small number of opponents.

Baseball could also see some rule changes, though those modifications could be limited because the sport largely allows for social distancing and very limited contact between players on the same or opposing teams.

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Sign-ups now available for 2021 Relics softball

LUDLOW – The Western Mass Relics has opened registration for the 2021 Senior Softball Season. The Silver Division (age 50 to 64) has filled 36 of the 112 spots and the Gold Division (65-and-up) has filled 32 of the 96 spots. The registrations are accepted on a first come, first serve basis. All our games are played at the Fish & Game in Ludlow. For further information or to register go to www.westernmassrelics.org.



File photos

Hockey games this season may be found on Livebarn or a school's social media website.

STREAMING ■ from page 7

at swim meets, though many schools are planning to stream those events utilizing social media.

Regardless of the platform, there could be many high school games available to fans during the next months, making it possible for fans to be able to stay in on the action for this season. The trend could continue outdoors next month if football games are unable to have fans at their games, though guidance have not been issued and things could drastically change in the next month depending on the government's ability to step up vaccinations under the Biden administration.

Fan rule policies were made by the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Association. Despite hesitation over being indoors, up to two home fans per students will be allowed in some schools, much like the fall policy, Agawam Athletic Director and PVIAC Board member David Stratton said.

Not all schools will host fans, however, and much of it depends on how strict a particular town's school department or health department is about the issue. Fans who are allowed to attend basketball or hockey games must be masked and social distance. With basketball having much smaller rosters than soccer and field hockey, it should limit the number of people attending games.

New umpires needed for 2021 season

REGION – The Western Massachusetts Baseball Umpire Association is looking for individuals who are interested in umpiring baseball at the high school and youth level. The WMBUA services high school baseball and various other leagues in the Greater Springfield area/ Hampden County.

The WMBUA's first year members class will be held for roughly five to six weeks, beginning in February. The class dates right now are fluid as the organization monitors what happens with

the COVID-19 pandemic. Class is usually one or two nights per week from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The class takes place in the First Baptist Church of East Longmeadow's classrooms at 50 Parker Street. Classes may also be virtual if COVID-19 does not allow for in-person meetings.

If you are interested in taking the classes, contact Chris Meffen, the WMBUA Secretary, via email at cmef-fen8017@gmail.com or visit the WMBUA website at wmbua.org.

Pioneers to host Pelham clinic

LUDLOW – Western United Pioneers FC is excited to offer a soccer clinic in Pelham, MA for players in the Massachusetts North Region. The fall clinic provides off-season training and skill development by WUP FC coaches. There are two sessions available, sign up for one or both. It makes a great holiday gift for friends and family members.

This program is offered to boys and girls born in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014. The four-week program includes one practice per week for a total of \$65 per session (\$130 for 2 sessions). Sessions will consist of a max of 15 players per field (COVID regula-

tion for the players' safety).

SESSION 1: MONDAYS 1/25, 2/1, and 2/8

Boys and Girls Born 2013 and 2014: Session is at 5 p.m.

Boys and Girls Born 2010, 2011, and 2012: Session is at 6 p.m.

SESSION 2: MONDAYS 2/22, 3/1, 3/8, and 3/15

Boys and Girls Born 2013 and 2014: Session is at 5 p.m.

Boys and Girls Born 2010, 2011, and 2012: Session is at 6 p.m.

The sessions will be held at Pelham Elementary School at 45 Amherst Road, Pelham, MA 01002.

Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports." We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with your

friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections in the coming weeks, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

RACING ■ from page 7

the 10th annual feature spectacular on Saturday, July 24. Two dates at Star in the midst of their packed schedule will give race fans a chance to watch Modifieds tear up the quarter-mile again. Matt Hirschman, a five-time and defending Tri Track champion, went to Victory Lane at Star last year.

With two dates, the return to Massachusetts and Seekonk Speedway is highly anticipated by the series, teams, drivers and fans. Seekonk will host the annual \$10,000 to win Open Wheel Wednesday event on Wednesday, June 30, and also host the Haunted Hundred on Saturday, Oct. 23.

As part of the Haunted Hundred -- for the first time -- all three races during the day will be 100 laps. Tri

Track headlines the action, crowning the 2021 champion, while the stars of the Pro All Star Series (PASS) and American Canadian Tour (ACT) will also compete in their championship events during the season-finale, which will also end the 75th year of full-time racing at Seekonk in style.

The 2021 schedule is subject to change due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Registration for the 2021 season will open on January 28, to be completed by drivers and teams through the Tri Track website. More information will be released closer to that date. For more information on the Tri Track Open Modified Series, visit TriTrack-Modifieds.com and follow the series on social media.

CAPITOL ■ from page 3

citizens that were there, I had a feeling the media was not being truthful in how they covered the president's rallies," she said. "We were right. What happened at the Capitol was done by people who did not support the president, period. A couple hundred awful people and hundreds of thousands of peaceful people that the media ignores. It appears to me the media is compliant in our division."

Video and audio broadcast in real time as well as video from inside the Capitol during the attack that has aired since, and statements made by some of the insurrectionists that have been documented in court filings and numerous news reports, show pro-Trump supporters were part of the mob. Also, all of the visual evidence broadcast and published shows many hundreds, if not several thousand, storming the Capitol.

Hull said some protestors tried to discourage those who seemed to want to cause trouble.

"Anytime anyone came through us who appeared to want confrontation, people pulled out their phones to take video," she said. "It was enough to keep them moving on their way."

At the Capitol Building

"When we got to the Capitol we heard a woman had been shot," Hull said. "As we got closer, we watched citizens linking arms to protect the security from some bad actors. In front of the building people were screaming 'No! Antifa! Stop!' while trying to stop these others from encouraging people to be aggressive. When tear gas was released there was confusion, but people were helping each other. I met an 82-year-old man named Chaz from Ohio. He got separated from his friends. We stayed with him until we found his bus down by the Lincoln Memorial."

There is no group or organization called "Antifa." The acronym stands for "anti-fascist" and has come to be used as an umbrella term for left-wing activists who have

protested – violently and non-violently – against right-wing leaders and policies in general and racism in particular. While it is reasonable to speculate that not every member of the mob was there in support of Trump specifically, there has been no evidence to suggest that there were any appreciable number of left-wing activists who were part of the Capitol takeover.

Hull made it to the Capitol steps. "We strolled – not stormed – up to the steps," she said. "While we witnessed the people who were not there with good intentions around the building, the majority were yelling at them to stop. The citizens that came from the Capitol in no way were affiliated with these people, and I feel the media is intentionally misleading people to believe we support them."

It would be unreasonable to say everyone at the rally stormed the Capitol afterward and there has been no credible reporting stating that as fact. Conversely, much credible reporting exists to document that many in the mob came directly from the rally.

Violence

"When we were close to the Capitol, we were told a woman had been killed," she said.

"We instinctively knew if it were true, it was not one of the people that was at the White House rally – it was bad actors. When we got to the Capitol, we knew we were right. The overall reaction was to show that we were calm, and these bad actors were not us. People continued to shout at them to make that clear."

Ashli Babbitt, the woman killed by Capitol police while trying to force her way into the House Chamber, attended the rally, her husband told Fox News San Diego. This was also reported by Reuters and other news organizations. Others who have since been arrested on a variety of charges said they had been at the president's rally before heading to the Capitol.

Media

Some people who attended the rally are quoted in news coverage

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Athlete of the Week

Madison Cole Palmer

Cole was a junior on last year's Panthers girls basketball team. The Panthers are hopeful to start the season next week. To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.

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BASKETBALL ■ from page 7

Nearby neighbors Ware, Minnechaug, and Ludlow are not part of that group as those teams are scheduled to begin playing in the next two weeks.

Pathfinder, despite not having a home court, is set to play next week as well, opening its season with the boys and girls visiting Ware.

Pathfinder will also be playing against Palmer and Ludlow. Belchertown is also a part of Pathfinder's schedule, but the initial games between the teams scheduled next week have been postponed temporarily. They could be played sometime next month as school

officials are hopeful COVID-19 case numbers will go down with more distance from the holiday spike and the rollout of the vaccine continues.

Palmer's schedule features some of the same teams as Pathfinder, and matchups against Belchertown are postponed as of now. Palmer's schedule also currently features the Hampden Charter School of Science and Amherst Regional. Amherst was part of Palmer's geographic "bubble" during the fall soccer season.

Pathfinder does not have wrestling as that sport has been deferred until the spring season.

Listening important

When asked what she would suggest to lower the current politically-charged atmosphere, Hull had a solution.

"It is up to us, 'We the People' to bring ourselves together. Pick up the phone and call that person 'you just can't talk to anymore' and listen, really listen. I have seen people singled out and bullied because they do not share like views. Is that who you are? That is not who I am. The media does not love you; your friends and family do."

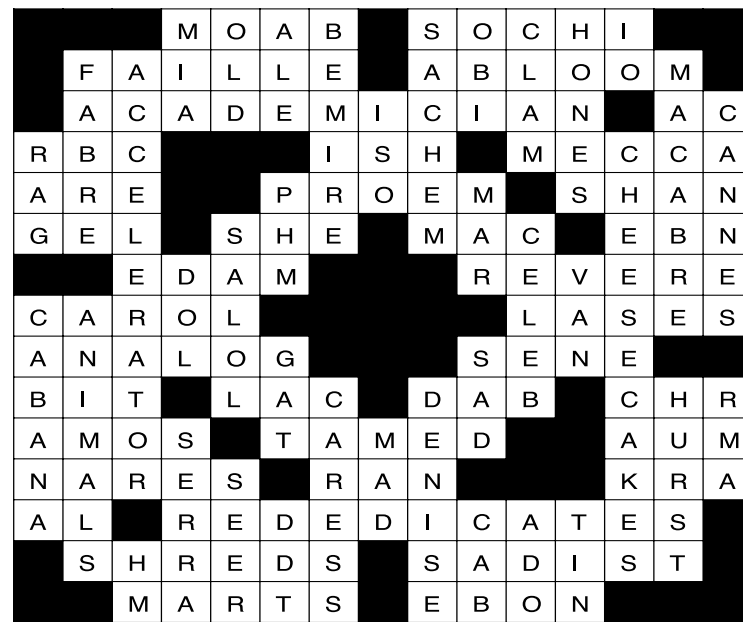
And with inauguration day here, Hull welcomes it.

"Like every other person in this country I look forward to Inauguration Day and cannot wait to have this past year in the rear-view mirror," she said. "We need to come together and move forward together."

Her final comments on what occurred two weeks ago:

"The good people who went to the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, were there because they love you and everyone in this country, and we believe that people on both sides of our government are treating this nation poorly," Hull said.

"I was not there as a Republican or a Democrat. I was there as a patriot."



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O B I T U A R I E S

Anna C. (VanWyck) Botelho, 80

WALES — Anna C. (VanWyck) Botelho, 80, passed away peacefully following a brief illness on Saturday, Jan. 2, 2021 — just two days before her 81st birthday.

Anna was born in Springfield on Jan. 4, 1940, to the late Oscar M. and Audrey (Moore) VanWyck. She was raised in Ludlow, graduating from Ludlow High School with the honor of Valedictorian and then went on to receive her degree from Vermont College. After college, Anna met the love of her life, Chester Botelho Jr., while working at Holyoke Hospital as a medical technologist. The two were married in 1964, and resided in Chicopee before settling in Wales, where she and Chet raised their family.

Anna was the embodiment of patience and reason, and despite the sometimes-unconventional ambitions or ventures her family were pursuing, Anna offered her full and unconditional support. Whether it was an interesting idea proposed by Chet (raising quail or harvesting honey from bees!), or her children taking a path less traveled in pursuit of their dreams — the response from Anna was always enthusiastic.

In April of 2003, Anna lost her beloved husband after many years of compounding complications resulting from diabetes. She continued to work at Wing Memorial Hospital until

retiring in 2006 with a career that spanned almost 30 years.

Anna settled into an exceptionally active retirement. Wanting to volunteer her time, she taught English as a second language and worked at the local food bank. Never ceasing to want to learn and grow, she enrolled in numerous educational travel programs through Elderhostel. Anna was also ready for any adventure, and frequently found herself traveling with friends and family. The destination wasn't important — Anna was ready. Whether it was a last-minute cruise, taking on the Big Easy, or touring many countries in Europe with her kids, in-laws and traveling sidekick Carol, Anna truly experienced the world with those she loved.

Living alone for nearly the last 17 years, Anna was always surrounded by family and friends. She was very active in the local senior community and maintained decades-long friendships; most notably the "Wednesday night girls," and her lifelong friends from Holyoke Hospital and the Laboratory at Wing Hospital. This support system allowed her to live a full independent life, which she was able to do, right up until her passing.

Anna was predeceased by



her husband Chester Botelho Jr. in 2003. She leaves her children: daughter Christie Botelho and son in-law, Robbie Schwartz of Tinton Falls, N.J.; son Matthew T. Botelho and daughter in-law Donna of Sturbridge; her sister Joyce Esakson and her husband David of Richmond, Calif.; her brother David VanWyck and his wife Karen of Millington, Md.; as well as nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family members and friends.

More than anything else, Anna found such joy in the little things in life, and valued family and friends above all. She will be missed dearly by all who had the good fortune to make her acquaintance but will remain a guiding light and role model for those of us left behind.

A memorial service will be held in the Spring with burial at Wales No. 4 Cemetery in the family plot. In lieu of flowers please consider a memorial donation in Anna's name to the American Diabetes Association or Memorial Sloan Kettering.

Lombard Funeral Home of Monson has been entrusted with the arrangements. For online condolences visit lombardfuneralhome.com.

John D. Bradway, 1971-2021

DUBLIN, OHIO — John D. Bradway, 49, passed away, Jan. 8, 2021, at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus, Ohio.

John was born Oct. 1, 1971, to David P. Bradway and the late Joyce (Warminger) Bradway. John grew up in Monson and was a graduate of Monson High School. He continued his education at the University of Vermont and was a graduate of Cornell University School of Hotel Management. John was successful in the hotel management industry.

His resume included The Breakers in West Palm Beach, Fla., The Cliff House in Maine, The Hermitage Hotel in Nashville, Tenn., and several other resorts located in Jamaica, New York City and Palm Beach, Fla.

John leaves his father, David P. Bradway and his wife Noreen of Monson; sisters, Julie Schofield of Dublin, Ohio, Collen Madison and her husband Eric of Hampden, Kathleen Corish of Monson, Shelly Off of Des Moines, Iowa, and Karen Brad-

way of South Hadley, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services are private with a memorial service to be scheduled at a later date. In lieu of flowers please consider a memorial contribution in John's name to the Dakin Humane Society 171 Union St. Springfield, MA 01105.

Lombard Funeral Home of Monson has been entrusted with the arrangements. For on-line condolences visit lombardfuneralhome.com.

Thomas M. Clason, 1934 – 2021

MONSON — Thomas McKinley Clason, 86, a devoted family man, passed away on Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021, at home surrounded by family.

He was born in Springfield on Oct. 15, 1934, a son of the late Robert M. and Catherine (Allan) Clason. He was educated in Springfield schools and later at Wilbraham-Monson Academy.

After graduating, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and served honorably during the Korean War. His military service became a lifelong dedication to our country and our flag. He participated for many years in the Monson Summer Fest Parade and was a proud member of the American Legion Post #123 in Ware as well as a member and former Commandant of Detachment #140 Ware, Marine Corps League.

Tom retired as a salesman

from Bertera in Palmer in 2005. Tom enjoyed gardening, cooking and spending time at the senior center playing cards. He enjoyed traveling, especially to spend time with his family in Neptune Beach, Fla., and Scotland.

He was predeceased by his beloved wife, Maureen (Tibbetts) Clason in 2000 and by his only grandson, Geoffrey Hanley in 2017. Tom is survived by his six children: Susan Clason of Monson, who was his devoted caregiver; Noreen (Dan) McCarthy of Palmer; Bonnie (Chap) Hanley of Niantic, Conn.; Thomas "Skip" Clason, Jr. of Monson; Margaret Yates of Bayville, N.J.; and William Clason of Monson. He will be remembered fondly by his grandchildren: Kathleen, Marissa, Meghan, Colleen,



Alli, Emily and great grandchildren: Anna, Cayden, Olivia, Jonathan and Calvin. He also leaves many extended family members including his nieces, nephews and cousins.

A Liturgy of Christian Burial will be held at a later date (to be announced) and followed by burial with military honors in Bethany Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Tom's name may be made to the Marine Corps League Detachment #140, Scholarship Fund, 45 Maple St, Ware, MA 01082 or to the Monson Senior Center, 106 Main St., Monson, MA 01057.

Visit lombardfuneralhome.com for more details and to share online condolences, photos and messages.

Louis G. Leroux, 64

PALMER — Louis G. Leroux, 64, most recently of West Warren, passed away Jan. 16, 2021 at Baystate Medical Center.

He was born on June 28, 1956, in Palmer to the late Louis and Alice (Laviolette) Leroux. Louis spent his childhood in Bondsville. He graduated from high school and became a printer for many firms throughout the

years. Louis spent his free time building model cars, with his beloved Labrador, Mandi, by his side.

Louis is survived by his sons, Christopher Leroux and his wife Tina of Palmer and Joseph Leroux and his wife Lori of Barre. He also leaves behind his grandson, Christopher Leroux.

Beers & Story Palmer Fu-

neral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements. Services for Louis will be private and at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the ASPCA at aspc.org/donate. For more details, visit beersandstory.com.

DEATH NOTICES

Anna C. Botelho (VanWyck), 80

Died: Jan. 2, 2021
Services to be held at later date

Thomas McKinley Clason, 86

Died: Jan. 14, 2021
Services to be held at later date

Constance A. Massey (Tripp), 85

Died: Jan. 14, 2021
Services are Private

Sally B. Smith, 58

Died: Jan. 15, 2021
Services are Private

John D. Bradway, 49

Died: Jan. 8, 2021
Services are Private

Louis G. Leroux, 64

Died: Jan. 16, 2021
Services are Private

Nicholas Frederick Plouffe, 41

Died: Jan. 8, 2021

Albert Wayne Wood, 62

Died: Jan. 2021
A gathering of family and friends will be held 4-6 p.m. Jan. 29 at Lombard Funeral Home, Monson

O B I T U A R I E S

Constance A Massey (Tripp), 85

Constance A Massey (Tripp) was born to Arthur and Bella Tripp (Fleury) on June 24, 1936. She passed away at Baystate Wing Hospital surrounded by her loving family on Jan. 14, 2021, after a heroic, three-week battle with Covid.

Connie grew up in Brimfield and graduated Salutatorian of her class from Hitchcock Academy in 1954. She played softball during her high school years and beyond until she had her first child.

She met Donald J. Massey, who lived at a neighboring farm, and the two teens fell head over heels in love, dated throughout high school and married in 1957. They had two children, Glenn and Lynn, and moved to Palmer in 1961, where they both spent their remaining lives.

Connie worked in the office at Tampax after graduation and later ran the office at Hinkson's Paper Mill in Palmer and went on to work as a Dietary Supervisor at Palmer House Healthcare

from 1973 to 2012.

She enjoyed baking, reading, politics, celebrity gossip, pitch, camping, ice skating and, always, a good, hot cup of tea. She was an avid Red Sox and Patriots fan. She was known for making the biggest pot of beef stew on her camp stove for opening day fishing, hot chocolate and soup for family skating parties — and her delicious black magic cake for birthday celebrations.

She loved surprising her family with meaningful extravagant gifts, but her greatest joy was interacting with her children and grandchildren whom she loved beyond all measure and spent every spare moment encouraging their passions and interests.

She was predeceased by Donald in 2012 and resided with daughter Lynn and her family for the past eight years and they



were blessed to have her as such a tightly woven part of their daily lives.

Connie will be deeply and forever missed by her daughter Lynn Lis and husband Jan, her three grandchildren Ian, Noah and Devin Lis,

her son Glenn Massey and wife Rocky Venskowski of Belcher-town, and her devoted cat Trudy. She also leaves her remaining siblings Betty Samar, Joan Demers, Eleanor Keith, Buddy Tripp and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by sister Kathleen Stearns Griswold in 1991.

Services are private and in the care of Beers & Story Funeral Home. Visit beersandstory.com to leave condolences. For those who wish to honor Connie's life, donations may be made in her name to Hitchcock Free Academy in Brimfield. Go to Hitchcockacademy.org.

Nicholas Frederick Plouffe, 41

LUDLOW — Nicholas Frederick Plouffe, 41, formerly of Monson, fell ill earlier this month and unfortunately was unable to recover, passing away on Jan. 8, 2021.

Nick, as most of us knew him, was a simple and kind man. He was a former multi-sport Division 1 athlete, earned his MBA, and had a successful career in the green energy sector. He loved to root for all of the local professional sports teams,

especially the Red Sox and Patriots! Above all, he loved his family and loved his son, Cooper, more than anything on the planet.

Nick will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him, including his son, Cooper; his parents Donald and Catherine (Wadas) Plouffe; and his brother, Michael.



Due to the current pandemic, a memorial service will be held at a later date and friends and family will be notified at that time.

Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home entrusted with Nick's care.

For more information or to leave a memory, visit beersandstory.com

Sally Beth Smith, 1962 – 2021

MONSON — Sally B. Smith, 58, passed away at her home in Monson on Friday, Jan. 15, 2021, surrounded by her loving family.

She was born in Palmer on March 6, 1962, a daughter of the late Lorraine R. (Blake) Stanton and survived by her father, Richard H. Stanton of Brimfield. Sally was educated locally and was a 1981 graduate of Tantasqua Regional High School. She later graduated from Mansfield Beauty School in Springfield and began her work in cosmetology, hairdressing and nails. She owned and operated Professional Nails and Hair in Monson for many years. She also volunteered her cosmetic skills and time with the Monson Arts Council for area plays.

Sally enjoyed painting watercolors, tending to her flower gardens, especially her perennials and lilacs. She was a phe-

nomenal cook and baker. She was a long-time member of First Church of Monson Congregational United where she volunteered with the Bible School. Sally also worked as a personal care attendant for many people and spent the last years of her life being a devoted caregiver for her dad, Richard.

She is also survived by her three children, Evan H. Smith of Monson; Mary E. Smith of Monson; Benjamin J. Smith of Monson; her three sisters, Lorraine "Dolly" Goodreau of Ludlow; Heidi Deschenes of Northport, Fla.; Becky Stockman of Palmer; her two brothers, Richard "Richie" Stanton Jr. of Warren; and Michael Stanton of Connecticut. She also leaves her former husband, Sanford H. Smith



of Monson, as well as many extended family members including nieces, nephews and cousins.

Sally was loved far and wide beyond her family and leaves behind many friends as well. Sally loved deeply with her whole heart. She had a beautiful smile and was very kind. She loved animals and will be missed by her many cats and her dog Milo.

A private celebration of life will be held in Brimfield followed by burial in Brimfield Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family will be accepting donations to honor Sally's final wishes. Visit lombardfuneralhome.com to share online condolences and pictures, messages of love and more details.

Albert Wood, 1958 – 2021

BELCHERTOWN — Albert Wayne Wood, 62, formerly of Palmer, passed away at home after a courageous battle with cancer.

He was born in Northampton on Aug. 5, 1958 and educated in Northampton schools. Al was a longtime reliable construction laborer and worked for many area companies over the years around Western Mass. He also

did stone wall work throughout Cape Cod, but primarily built homes. He worked hard most of his life and in his down time he loved fishing, relaxing by the water and taking care of his yard.

Al is survived by his three daughters, Stephanie Lanagan of Oklahoma; Nina Holly of Wyoming, and Danica Wood of South Carolina. He also leaves behind his grandchildren, great

grandson and many family and friends.

A gathering of family and friends will take place 4-6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, 2021, at Lombard Funeral Home, 3 Bridge St., Monson, to celebrate and remember Al's life.

Visit lombardfuneralhome.com for more details and to share online condolences.

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for The Journal Register, please email dfarmer@turley.com.

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Docket No. HD20P1916EA
Estate of:
Karlton Gustav Anderson
Also known as:
Karl Anderson
Date of Death: 12/28/2019
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Karen M Anderson** of Bondsville, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that: **Karen M Anderson** of Bondsville, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/09/2021.**
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 05, 2021
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
01/21/2021

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
Premises: 183 Palmer Road, Monson, Massachusetts
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Evelyn F. Beyor and Wayne M. Beyor to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. and now held by Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Champion Mortgage Company, said mortgage dated December 21, 2007, and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 17090, Page 30, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated October 18, 2017, and recorded with said Deeds in Book 21907 at Page 231, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on **February 4, 2021, at 1:00 PM** Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:
Certain real estate situated in Monson, Hampden County, Massachusetts, on the east side of the State Highway leading to Palmer, bounded and described as follows:
Beginning at a bound in the easterly side of said Highway and at the south-west corner of land now or formerly of Catherine Maloney, thence Easterly along last named land, about eleven hundred (1100) feet to an iron pipe in line of land now or formerly of one Appleby; thence Southerly in a line parallel with the easterly line of said Highway, one hundred forty (140) feet to an iron pin; thence Westerly in a line parallel with the southerly line of said Maloney land, about eleven hundred (1100) feet to the easterly side of said Highway; and thence Northerly along the easterly side of said Highway, one hundred forty (140) feet to the place of beginning.
Together with the right to use one-fourth (1/4) of the water in the spring situated on adjacent land now or formerly of one Appleby southeasterly of the buildings on said conveyed premises, with right to maintain the pipe now running from said spring to said buildings and the right to enter upon said Appleby land for the purpose of relaying and maintaining said pipe and repairing said spring. It is understood and agreed that in the event repairs should be necessary to said spring the grantees, or their successors or assigns, shall pay their proportionate cost of same.
Excepting from this conveyance those two parcels of land conveyed by Clarence A. Carrington et ux to Willie E. Robbins et ux by deed dated July 22, 1949, recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds, Book 2001, age 275, and by deed dated June 16, 1952, recorded in said Registry of Deeds, Book 2181, Page 153.
Subject to agreement concerning the erection and maintenance of fences, as set forth in deed Pearl A. Appleby to Gustave Knoetzsch, dated October 29, 1926, recorded in said Registry of Deeds in Book 1340, Page 15.
Being the same premises conveyed to the mortgagors by deed of Robert N. Powell and Lorraine R. Powell dated December 29, 1961 and recorded with Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 2855, Page 205.
The said Wayne M. Beyor and Evelyn F. Beyor hereby release to the mortgagee all rights of Homestead as set forth in instrument recorded in Book 8017, Page 360.
The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.
For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated December 29, 1961, and recorded in Book 2855 at Page 206 with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds.
TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.
TEN THOUSAND (\$10,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within forty five (45) days after the date of sale.
Other terms to be announced at the sale.
Marinosci Law Group, P.C.
275 West Natick Road, Suite 500
Warwick, RI 02886
Attorney for Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Champion Mortgage Company
Present Holder of the Mortgage
Telephone: (401) 234-9200
MLG File No.: 20-03427
01/14, 01/21, 01/28/2021

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
Docket No. 19 SM 005714 ORDER OF NOTICE
TO: Linda S. Costa and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. as Trustee for Option One Mortgage Loan Trust 2007-5 Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-5 claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Monson, numbered 10 Robbins Road a/k/a 10.5 Robbins Road, given by Linda S. Costa to Lendia, Inc., dated February 13, 2007, and recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 16514, Page 548, as affected by Judgment dated December 31, 2019, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 23114, Page 480, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.
If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **2/22/2021** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.
Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on 1/11/2021
Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
01/21/2021

TOWN OF PALMER REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
The Chief Procurement Officer, Town of Palmer, will be accepting sealed bid proposals for the Fiscal Year 2022 Valuation Update for Real and Personal Property.
Proposal specifications may be obtained from the Town Manager's Office during normal business hours (Monday through Thursday, 8:30a – 4:30p) at the Palmer Town Building, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069-1133 or by email to rmcnutt@townofpalmer.com.
Proposals will be accepted during normal business hours until 4:30p Monday February 22, 2021 at the Palmer Town Building, Office of the Town Manager, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069-1133.
Separate bids should be marked clearly Technical Proposal – Town of Palmer, FY2022 Value Update and Price Proposal – Town of Palmer, FY2022 Value Update.
The Town of Palmer reserves the right to reject any and all bids in the best interest of the Town.
Ryan McNutt
Town Manager / Chief Procurement Officer
Town of Palmer
01/21/2021

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HDxxxxxGD**
In the interests of:
Paul B Puls
Formerly of Palmer, MA Of: Southbridge, MA
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/ Protected Person
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Alison M Bartlett-O'Donald** of Holyoke, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court:
Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent.
The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before **10:00 A.M. on the return date of 02/08/2021.** This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 11, 2021
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
01/21/2021

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS TOWN OF MONSON DOROTHY P. JENKINS, CMMC, COLLECTOR OF TAXES OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR OF TAXES NOTICE OF TAX TAKING TO THE OWNERS OF THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED LAND AND TO ALL OTHERS CONCERNED
You are hereby notified that on Friday the **5th day of February, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.** at the Tax Collectors's Office, **110 MAIN STREET**, pursuant to the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 60, Section 53, and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Collector of Taxes, it is my intention to take for the Town of Monson the following parcels of land for non-payment of the taxes due thereon, with interest and all incidental expenses and costs to the date of taking, unless the same shall have been paid before that date.
Assessed To **CARPENTER ANTHONY C**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 38768 Square Feet located and known as 27 CREST RD shown on the Town of Monson Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 132-060 and being part of the premises recorded in book 12729 on page 0381 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2019 CPA \$38.60
2019 Tax \$2,240.72
Assessed To **CARRIGAN J PATRICK**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 12 Acres located and known as MAY HILL RD shown on the Town of Monson Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 060-002 and being part of the premises recorded in book 4189 on page 0385 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2019 Tax \$177.44
Assessed To **CHAMPAGNE CHRISTINE A**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 6.43 Acres located and known as 265 SILVER ST shown on the Town of Monson Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 003-006 and being part of the premises recorded in book 20970 on page 0072 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2019 CPA \$55.58
2019 Tax \$3,417.99
2019 Trash Int Lien \$12.47
2019 Trash Lien \$156.00
Assessed To **DAVIS HILTON R LE**

A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 2.27 Acres located and known as 253 WOOD HILL RD shown on the Town of Monson Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 035-018 and being part of the premises recorded in book 21144 on page 0149 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2019 CPA \$21.90
2019 Tax \$1,796.21
Assessed To **FINNEGAN ROSEMARY**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 2688 Square Feet located and known as 18 WASHINGTON ST shown on the Town of Monson Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 114-006 and being part of the premises recorded in book 11753 on page 0319 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2019 Tax \$423.15
Assessed To **GALVAN ROBERTO And PERRY JOHN P JR**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 43560 Square Feet located and known as 247 1/2 HOVEY RD shown on the Town of Monson Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 043-025 and being part of the premises recorded in book 17333 on page 0337 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2019 Tax \$1,555.23
Assessed To **GERMAIN NORMA**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 10890 Square Feet located and known as WAYNE RD shown on the Town of Monson Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 114-050 and being part of the premises recorded in book 4091 on page 0379 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2019 Tax \$66.11
Assessed To **HASTINGS DIANE**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 8276 Square Feet located and known as WALES RD shown on the Town of Monson Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 140-0011 and being part of the premises recorded in book 11243 on page 0437 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2019 Tax \$89.87
Assessed To **JURCZYK THERESA**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 28749 Square Feet located and known as 17 OAK ST shown on the Town of Monson Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 116-070 and being part of the premises recorded in book 5271 on page 0224 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2019 CPA \$18.87
2019 Tax \$1,756.43
Assessed To **KEALY TIMOTHY M And. KEALY KRISTIN B**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 26253 Square Feet located and known as 361 MAIN ST shown on the Town of Monson Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 117-005 and being part of the premises recorded in book 11016 on page 0119 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2019 Tax \$510.02
Assessed To **PERKINS DAVID D And PERKINS SHERRY R**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 12480 Square Feet located and known as 21 WILBRAHAM RD shown on the Town of Monson Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 072-007 and being part of the premises recorded in book 1 0452 on page 0596 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2019 CPA \$4.86
2019 Tax \$195.14
2019 Sewer Lien \$542.18
2019 Trash Int Lien \$16.12
2019 Trash Lien \$146.00
2019 Util Interest Lien \$66.39
2019 Water Lien \$241.17
Assessed To **SCHRADE RUBY M**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 2.28 Acres located and known as 136 UPPER HAMPDEN RD shown on the Town of Monson Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 010-016 and being part of the premises recorded in book 2802 on page 0296 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2019 Tax \$77.79
Assessed To **SCHRADE RUBY M**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 32234 Square Feet located and known as 134 UPPER HAMPDEN RD shown on the Town of Monson Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 010-015 and being part of the premises recorded in book 1732 on page 0398 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2019 CPA \$5.28
2019 Tax \$1,129.94
Assessed To **SILAR DISTRESSED REAL ESTATE FUND-I LP**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 9162 Square Feet located and known as 32 GREEN ST shown on the Town of Monson Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 115-169 and being part of the premises recorded in book 20534 on page 0105 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
Supposed Present Owner C/O PLANET HOME LENDING LLC
2019 CPA \$15.08
2019 Tax \$979.71

Assessed to **SODERSTROM ROBERT A And SODERSTROM ERIKA L**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 1.12 Acres located and known as 46 HIGH ST shown on the Town of Monson Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 094-009 and being part of the premises recorded in book 10543 on page 0303 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2019 CPA \$9.20
2019 Tax \$783.64
Dorothy P. Jenkins, CMMC, Collector of Taxes
01/21/2021



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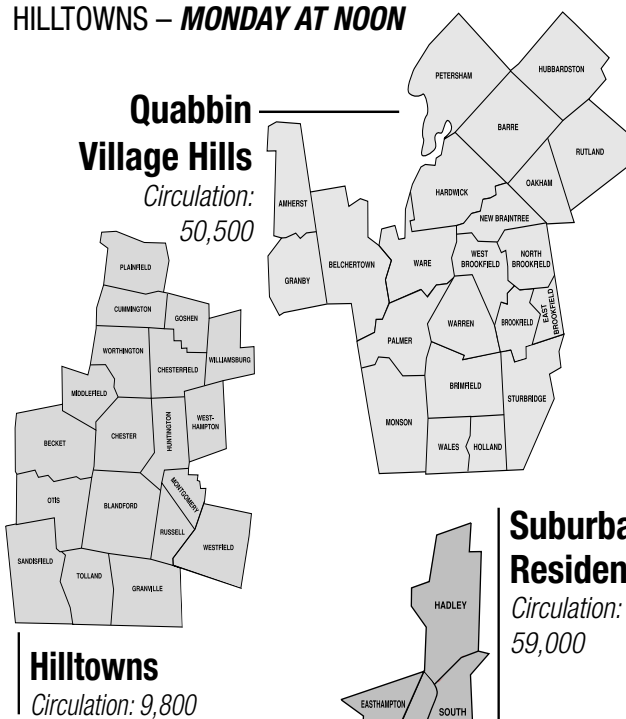
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Monson Savings Bank promotes Heather Arbour

MONSON — Monson Savings Bank recently announced the promotion of Heather Arbour to the role of BSA officer and compliance manager.

"Heather is an amazing employee who has time and time again proven her commitment to the bank and ensuring we always remain in compliance with regulations," said Monson Savings Bank President Dan Moriarty. "She is an asset to our team and we can't wait to see her growth continue with Monson Savings Bank."

Heather Arbour resides in Monson with her husband and four children. In her role as BSA officer and compliance manager she is responsible for overseeing the Monson Savings Bank's Bank Secrecy Act and anti-money laundering programs and ensuring compliance with banking regulations. Additionally, she manages the Retail Operations Department.

Arbour has been with Monson Savings Bank for 13 years, previously serving in the role of compliance and BSA manager. She has over 13 years of banking industry experience. She is currently enrolled in the New England School of Financial Studies and will be graduating



Heather Arbour

in the spring from Springfield Technical Community College with a business administration degree.

As a volunteer and co-treasurer for the Monson and Palmer Salvation Army, and a dedicated parent volunteer for the Monson Parent Teacher Student Association, Arbour is committed to contributing to local communities.

She also serves on the Monson Savings Bank Pandemic Reopening Preparedness Committee.

"As I began my journey with Monson Savings Bank I found that the bank had such a warm and inviting culture, not only within the community but with its employees as well," said Arbour. "I am so happy to continue to grow with Monson Savings Bank and work with the entire team here."

Incorporated as a mutually chartered community bank in 1872, Monson Savings Bank has the longest tenure of service and stability in its market. Civic leaders chartered the bank with the intent to give working men and women the opportunity to save. It has offices in Monson, Hampden, Wilbraham, Ware and most recently East Longmeadow.

UMass Fine Arts Center announces virtual 2021 spring season

AMHERST — This spring the UMass Fine Arts Center takes full advantage of the virtual world to engage and inspire audiences with over 40 online events featuring renowned artists like visual artist Alison Saar and the South African choral icons Ladysmith Black Mambazo.

Audiences can witness musicians from around the world perform in the newest configuration of the Silkroad Ensemble and enjoy the return of audience favorites like cellist Matt Haimovitz. "This moment to pivot enabled us to expand our reach, allowing us to bring the wonders of the arts to more communities in our richly diverse region," said Director Jamilla Deria. In keeping with tradition, the first event of the semester is the annual Fine Arts Center Gala hosted via Zoom on Feb. 6, and sponsored by Greenfield/Northampton Cooperative Bank. With the theme of "Re-live-Renew-Reimagine," the virtual version of this beloved and historically sold-out event celebrates and supports the Arts/Access outreach programs of the Fine Arts Center.

The presentation includes a trivia contest and prizes sponsored by Florence Bank and a "mini" silent auction featuring work by Tom Friedman and Laura Radwell. The evening concludes with a virtual dance party to an original set by FEVER, thanks to Finck & Perras Insurance. Registration is required and while the event is free, guest are asked to make a donation at whichever level they are comfortable.

The performing arts season kicks off with Ladysmith Black Mambazo on Feb. 17. The concert recorded in South Africa features the chorus performing the songs of unity and love that have made them globally renowned.

On April 25 as part of the UMass Bach Festival, renowned cellist Matt Haimovitz presents a virtual presentation of his "Bach Listening-Room" repertoire focused on Bach's solo cello suites. To close out the season on April 29, members of the Grammy Award-winning Silkroad Ensemble present highlights from their more than 20-year trajectory recorded from all over the planet. For families, the Fine Arts Center welcomes the virtual tour premiere of Manual Cinema's "Leonardo & Sam: the Terrible Monster and the Most Scaredy-Cat Kid in the Whole World, Respectively," on April 11. Inspired by the beloved books by Mo Willems, the piece is realized through Manual Cinema's critically acclaimed use of projection, shadow puppetry, and immersive sound to create a live cinematic experience. The Bodies at Risk series, featuring BIPOC artists in creative dialogue about the racialized body and social justice, continues from the fall. In conjunction with UMass Dance and Five College Dance Department's virtual conference, "Beyond the Proscenium," hip-hop based choreographers Rennie Harris and Jon Boogz talk on March 13, followed by a conversation between indigenous dance artist and company director, Emily Johnson, and choreographer and disability rights activist, Alice Sheppard, on March 18. The Reimagine Artist Residency series introduced last fall continues to feature groundbreaking

artists as they redefine what it means to be socially engaged artists. Performance artist Kristina Wong returns on March 1 to present her virtual piece born from the COVID-19 pandemic, "Sweatshop Overlord." Inspired by her experience forming "Auntie's Sewing Squad," the work grew into a now national grass roots effort to provide masks and more to communities in need. Multimedia artist Miwa Matreyek will be in residence focused around her climate-based work, "Infinitely Yours," leading workshops and participating in a climate crisis panel in collaboration with the UMass School for Earth & Sustainability and the MFA for Poets and Writers. Additional programming includes Japanologist Alex Kerr discussing his book "Lost Japan"; jazz performances by the Fay Victor Chamber Trio and Zaccai Curtis Afro-Cuban Quartet; and a Valley Jazz Network performance and conversation event focused on jazz and gender featuring Grammy-award winning drummer Teri Lyne Carrington. The University Museum of Contemporary Art has three virtual exhibitions this spring. Of special note is "Mirror Mirror: The Prints of Alison Saar" from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer and his Family Foundation.

For the exhibition "We Are For Freedoms," the Museum commissioned a series of posters from local and regional artists, asking them to visually respond to their interpretation of freedom.

The third exhibition, "Artifacts at the End of a Decade," the Museum's annual Curatorial Fellowship Exhibition, was originally scheduled to debut in March 2020, and features a portfolio of work that has not been on view in its entirety since 1989. Each exhibition will be on view online February through April and features live virtual events with the artists and curators involved in each. Augusta Savage Gallery continues with its 50th anniversary

theme, "Healing Bodies," presenting exhibitions by women from Northampton's Anchor House of Artists, New Mexico-based artist Carolyn Mae Lassiter, and a posthumous celebration of the work of Brettney Young. Each virtual exhibition launches with an opening reception on Zoom. Additionally, the Gallery hosts artist JuPong Lin's installation, "Poetics of Repair – Being Earth, Being Water," a participatory installation of poetry and paper cranes and canoes, "concocting a medicine of de-colonial love to mend our ravaged world." Hampden Gallery launches Feb. 1 with a group exhibition "CURRENT UNDERCURRENT" curated by Linda Griggs and M. Charlene Stevens, a visual conversation relating to current events such as COVID-19, gender, racial justice and climate change, featuring over 30 artists. Hampden's spring schedule also features solo exhibitions by artists Bruce Ackerson and Alicia Renadette. Fine Arts Center venues including the box office, Augusta Savage Gallery, Hampden Gallery and the University Museum of Contemporary Art, remain closed to the public until further notice. Full program details are available at fineartscenter.com. Some events have a nominal access fee per household or device; many are free. For more questions, the box office can be reached by email at faxbox@umass.edu and by phone at 413-545-2511 or 800-999-UMAS Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., hours subject to change. The UMass Fine Arts Center is supported by the New England Foundation for the Arts through the New England Arts Resilience Fund, part of the United States Regional Arts Resilience Fund, an initiative of the U.S. Regional Arts Organizations and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, with major funding from the federal CARES Act from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Polish plate dinner Feb. 13

WARE — St. Mary's Church, 57 South Street will be having a pre-order sale of a Polish plate dinner. The plate will consist of three pierogi, one golombek, kielbasa, kapusta and Polish bread. Cost of the meal is \$15. Curbside pickup will be on Saturday, Feb. 13, in the parking lot behind St. Mary's Church. Each customer will be designated a pickup time when placing your order. Payment should be the exact amount, either

check made out to St. Mary's Church, or cash and placed in an envelope with your name, phone number and payment amount. Call Sylvia at 413-436-9268 or Diane at 413-967-5207, with questions and/or to order. All orders must be received by Sunday, Feb. 7. St. Mary's thanks everyone for their support. Snow date will be Sunday, Feb. 14.

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